

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under § 103 on the basis of McCurdy et al. '697 and Yamaguchi et al. '598. The claims have been amended to better define the present invention over the cited references, and applicants traverse this rejection for the following reasons

According to the present invention, when a transaction to update a source database is started, DBMS2 assigns a transaction number. Journal obtaining facility 3 manages a journal using the assigned transaction number, and journal distribution facility 10 distributes the journal in units of transactions, using a transaction number (Fig. 5). With the present invention, complicated logic processes and delay of the process time of transactions can be avoided, and consistency among databases can be maintained when copying a journal from a plurality of source databases to a plurality of destination databases.

On the other hand, the technology disclosed in McCurdy is about sequential numbering of electronic documents and delivery by requests from a client with a search. Issue ID described in paragraphs [0123], [0129] of McCurdy is identification information assigned to each issue of an electronic document (magazine).

The Examiner seems to have determined that the identification information of an electronic document corresponds to the transaction identification information of the present invention. However, when distributing an electronic document assigned with an Issue ID to two or more clients, for example, consistency among the electronic documents distributed among the client terminals cannot be maintained, as in the present invention.

Thus, McCurdy does not disclose or suggest the journal distributing method or apparatus of the present invention.

Yamaguchi maintains the consistency of replica databases while continuing an updating process (transaction) of a database, and accesses a physical replica database without changing the application accessing for a source database.

In this regard, the present invention distributes information of the updating process (transaction) of a replica database in the state without any inconsistency, differing from Yamaguchi in the reflection timing of a source database. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner should call Applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: 

Patrick G. Burns

Registration No. 29,367

Customer No. 24978  
December 15, 2006  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: (312) 360-0080  
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315